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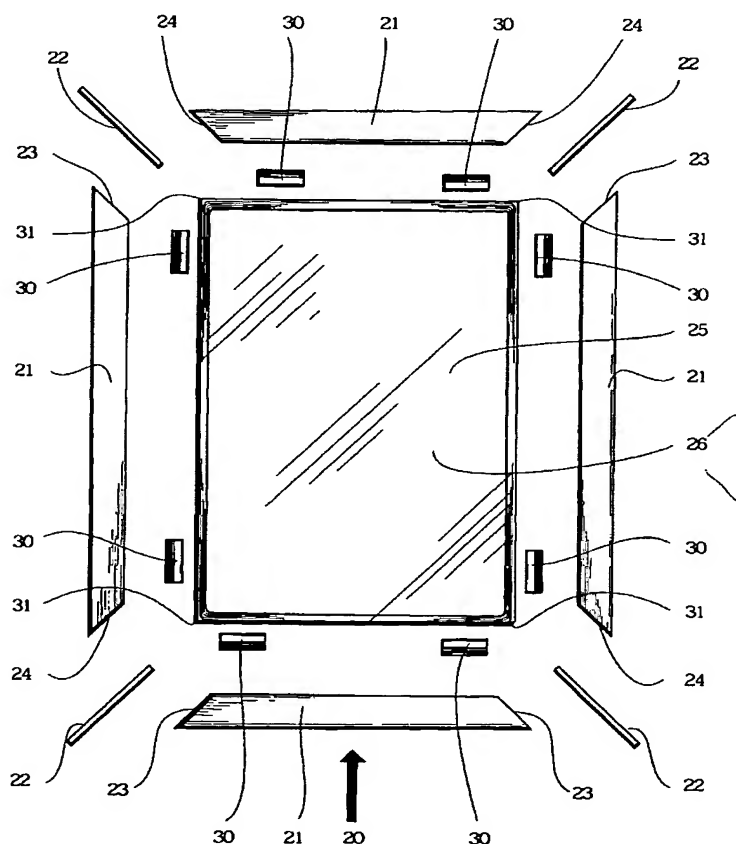
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(54) Title: A FRAMED PANEL AND RELATED METHOD OF MANUFACTURE



(57) Abstract: A framed panel and related method of manufacture are disclosed. A framed panel unit includes a panel along the edge of which thermoplastic frame members are disposed. The frame members have first and second opposed side walls which define a channel for receiving the edge of the panel. The channel of each frame member has spacers between the panel and each side wall for spacing the panel from the side walls. Prior to welding together the ends of the frame members, the spacers retain the frame members on the panel. The panel may include multiple opposed sheet members with a spacer between the sheet members spacing them apart, and a reactive thermoplastic sealant material bonding the sheets to the frame members. An associated method of forming a framed panel, frame members for a panel, and a spacer component for use in mounting a panel within a channel of a frame member are also disclosed.

WO 2005/042901 A1



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